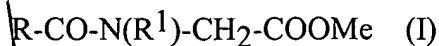


Sub 307
Me is hydrogen or a metal atom.

- AI
CONT
30. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein R is the aliphatic chain of lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid or palmitoleic acid, oleic acid (olein), linoleic acid, linolenic acid or isomers thereof.
31. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the wetting agent comprises a mixture of compounds of formula I in which the structure and proportion in the mixture of the R groups corresponds to the structure and abundance of such groups in natural fatty acids.
32. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the wetting agent comprises a mixture of compounds of formula I in which R¹ is an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbon atoms.
33. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the compound of formula I is water-soluble.
34. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the wetting agent is sodium N-oleoyl-sarcosinate.
35. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the spreading material comprises 0.01 to 2.0 % by weight of the N-acyl-glycinates of formula I relative to the weight of the material before impregnation.
36. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the porous flat-shaped structure comprises a textile sheet material made of monofilaments or corresponding multifilament yarns.
37. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the porous flat-shaped structure comprises a fabric or fleece material with a weight per unit area of 10 to 200 g/m².
38. The spreading material of claim 29 wherein the porous flat-shaped structure has at least one of a thickness of 20 to 200 μm and a pore volume of 30 to 85%.

39. A process for producing a spreading material comprising the steps of providing a porous flat-shaped structure and impregnating the porous flat-shaped structure with a wetting agent comprising an N-acyl-glycinate of formula I



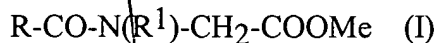
in which R represents an aliphatic group with 9 to 23 carbon atoms, the aliphatic group being saturated or comprising one to three double bonds,

R¹ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl group and

Me is hydrogen or a metal atom.

40. The process of claim 39 wherein the wetting agent is applied such that a coating of 0.01 to 2.0 % by weight of the applied wetting agent relative to the weight of the material before impregnation remains on the porous material.

41. A test strip comprising a flexible flat-shaped support on which one or several test fields are arranged next to one another, wherein said test fields carry one or several detection layers stacked on top of one another, and wherein the test fields are covered by an overlay made of a spreading material comprising a porous flat-shaped structure impregnated with a wetting agent comprising an N-acyl-glycinate of formula I



in which R represents an aliphatic group with 9 to 23 carbon atoms, the aliphatic group being saturated or comprising one to three double bonds,

R¹ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl group and

Me is hydrogen or a metal atom.

42. The test strip of claim 41 wherein the overlay comprises one or several flat-shaped overlay elements which are attached to the test strip in such a way that a part of their surface can be displaced freely relative to the strip surface covered by this part in the direction of curvature produced when the object is bent.

43. The test strip of claim 42 wherein the test fields are covered by the displaceable zones of an overlay comprising two elements. NAB

44. The test strip of claim 42 wherein the overlay comprises two overlay elements whose displaceable regions face one another and overlap.

45. The test strip of claim 44 wherein the overlap of the two overlay elements is above the separation line between the two test fields and preferably symmetrical thereto.

46. The test strip of claim 41 wherein the test strip comprises two single or multilayer test fields for the same or different diagnostically usable analytes, said test fields directly adjoining one another or being separated by a gap.

47. The test strip of claim 41 wherein the arrangement of detection layers and overlays on the test strip is covered with an inert flat-shaped material in such a manner that a space only remains free that is adequate for sample application in the overlap region of the overlay elements viewed in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the test strip.

48. The test strip of claim 41 wherein the hydrophilicity, transparency and liquid conducting capacity of the overlay material are matched in such a manner that an analyte sample is distributed over the entire analyte-sensitive region of the test carrier, the test strip is self-dosing and excess sample remains above the application spot. NAB

49. The test strip of claim 41 wherein the test strip comprises one test field which supports a monofilament spreading material which is larger than the test field and is attached to the support on both sides of the test field by means of a spacer having the thickness of the test field whereby the part of the spreading material which extends beyond the test field is covered by sample-impermeable material so that a sample application is only possible on that part of the spreading material which rests on the test field.

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Respectfully submitted,

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